

his beliefs, the arguments in controversial areas are most lucidly and thoughtfully presented. The author's voice comes alive clearly and forcefully from every page.

Experts in various fields afforded help with some of the chapters. The late Thomas Goethals provided a chapter on breeches, Kurt Benirschke one on multiple pregnancy, Claude Villee a short piece on human genetics. Blood grouping problems and erythroblastosis have been covered by F. H. Allen, Jr. and a superb chapter on the newborn has been done by Harvard pediatricians Paine and Clifford. A short section on psychiatric disease in pregnancy was written by Mandel Cohen.

Comparing this new volume with the latest edition of the perennial favorite, *Williams Obstetrics*, one finds that Reid in somewhat fewer pages has included all the old, familiar chapters, some in more detail, some in less, and has added a couple of extras to lure the new reader. Clearly it is too early to evaluate the place this text will assume in obstetric teaching in the United States. All of us must try it on the firing line and find out how it fits our particular demands. Your reviewer has thoroughly enjoyed those parts of it he has had time to digest fully and intends to get better acquainted with the rest of it as the academic year progresses. He urges you to read Reid for yourself.

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NATURE OF PSYCHOTHERAPY, THE—A Critique of the Psychotherapeutic Transaction—Walter Bromberg, B.S., M.D., Training Consultant, Department of Mental Hygiene, State of California. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 331 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y., 1962. 108 pages, \$4.50.

This book presents to the reader an interesting and stimulating group of opinions and insights concerning the essential nature of the psychotherapeutic transaction independent of its content or the specific theoretical orientation of the therapist. Although somewhat verbose and circuitous at times, it presents new dimensions for thinking about the psychotherapeutic process. This book reflects what appears to be the major current trend among psychotherapists: the focus on the interaction and the interactional situation rather than on what is being spoken about.

Using a combination of elements of theoretical sociological analysis, symbolic logic, and epistemology, the author examines in turn: (1) The basic presuppositions underlying dynamic psychotherapy; (2) The psychological need to explain as exists in the psychotherapist; (3) The validity of the presuppositions which underlie the psychological postulates involved in psychotherapeutic theory; (4) What the author calls extra-technical elements, the "art of psychotherapy"; (5) The therapist's position of wishing to help as a commonality in all therapies and a consistency in the therapist's position in a therapeutic situation; (6) The lack of sufficient knowledge of patient-premises underlying his part of the therapeutic interactions; and, (7) The use of the, what the author calls, "as if" model that the patient uses to view the therapist's intervention. The patient regards the therapist's explanations as if they were true and, apparently, is capable of benefiting from this micromodel of his problems independently of whatever theoretical framework within which this explanation falls. This attempt to strip the therapeutic process of its content and theoretical orientation of the therapist, although certainly not new (Wilhelm Reich and Otto Rank, among others, were struggling with the interactional problem in the early 1920's) nevertheless helps the reader focus on an aspect of therapy which, perhaps, too often is not seen.

One might, however, legitimately ask whether a therapeutic interaction can be examined by any of its members. Parsons has pointed out the importance of perspective in

viewing an interactional system. It is obvious that no one member of the therapeutic dyad is less determined by interactional influences than the other one. In a sense, therefore, the author may not be in a position to be a competent observer of a therapeutic interaction. The necessity for what Parsons calls "the significant third person" is demonstrated in this book in that, perhaps, its most valid observations concerned the premises of the therapist. The author admits that he has had little contact with the patient's part of the situation. The author's use of impersonal "tools" such as the logical examination of the material, was undoubtedly an attempt to get to this third person, more objective, vantage point. One wonders, however, whether his real insights came to him as a therapist as a member of the dyad and were then rationalized using whatever logical or sociological theory analysis tools that seemed to fit.

Although far from a definitive work in the very exciting area of the exploration of the psychotherapeutic process, the book brings to the reader some interesting new thoughts and comments concerning its essential nature. It is hoped that the author, or some of his coworkers, will use some of the ideas suggested by this book as impetus for exploring the psychotherapeutic process in a more observational and objective way. If this book does nothing but stimulate some methodological pursuit of these kinds of problems, it will certainly serve a valuable purpose.

ARNOLD J. MANDELL, M.D.

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STRABISMUS—Symposium of the New Orleans Academy of Ophthalmology—Raynold N. Berke, M.D., Diplomate, American Board of Ophthalmology; Assistant Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.; Harold Whaley Brown, M.D., Diplomate, American Board of Ophthalmology; Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, New York University Post-Graduate Medical School, New York, N. Y. David G. Cogan, M.D., Diplomate, American Board of Ophthalmology; Professor of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.; John Woodworth Henderson, M.D., Ph.D., Diplomate, American Board of Ophthalmology; Professor of Ophthalmology, The University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Mich.; Arthur Jampolsky, M.D., Diplomate, American Board of Ophthalmology; Director, Eye Research Institute, Presbyterian Medical Center, San Francisco, Calif.; and Marshall M. Parks, M.D., Diplomate, American Board of Ophthalmology; Attending Ophthalmologist, Children's Hospital, Washington, D. C. Edited by George M. Haik, M.D., Diplomate, American Board of Ophthalmology; Professor of Ophthalmology and Head of the Department, Louisiana State University School of Medicine, New Orleans, La. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis 3, Mo., 1962. 369 pages, illustrated, \$18.00.

This book on strabismus contains the material presented at a meeting of the New Orleans Academy of Ophthalmology. The participants were Doctors Raynold N. Berke, Harold W. Brown, David G. Cogan, John Woodworth Henderson, Arthur Jampolsky, and Marshall M. Parks. The material was edited by George M. Haik. The book is divided into 14 chapters covering the various phases of strabismus, including chapters on the neuroanatomy of ocular motility and strabismus, the neurology of amblyopia and nystagmus.

The guest speakers are all authorities in their particular fields of strabismus. In place of the usual considerations on a purely anatomic basis, the book includes the most modern concept of the neuroanatomy, physiology and neurology of the extraocular muscles. It is with this concept in mind that the esotropias, exotropias and hyperopias are discussed.

Special consideration is given to the "A" and "V" syndromes that have recently received so much attention. Pleoptics is also discussed, but one regrets that it isn't a clear, concise presentation of this new concept for the treatment of amblyopia.